

MNMM Fatal 2007-23

- Machinery Accident
- September 7, 2007 (Puerto Rico)
- Limestone Operation
- Supervisor
- 54 years old
- 27 years experience

Overview

The victim was fatally injured when the track loader he was operating left the edge of the road and traveled down a steep grade, and rolled over coming to rest on its side. He was not wearing a seat belt at the time of the accident and was ejected from the cab of the track loader.



Causal Factor

Management policies and procedures failed to ensure persons could safely operate mobile equipment. The victim's blood alcohol exceeded the legal limit and is evidence of impairment which contributed to the accident. There was no program in place to identify persons who may be operating equipment under impairment.

Best Practices

- When operating machinery, wear a properly maintained and adjusted seat belt and ensure the seat and suspension are secured and adjusted.
- When working machinery close to an edge, always keep the bucket or blade between the operator and the edge.
- When working in tight areas or where drop offs exist, reduce the throttle setting, slow movement, and constantly monitor machine position.
- Operate equipment so that control is maintained.
- Implement procedures to identify persons who may be impaired from substance abuse.